

Spanish Fork, Utah  
October 4, 1989

TO: Editor  
The Daily Herald

It is very disturbing to me that The Daily Herald, the paper representing Utah County, has printed so many comments contrary to the Central Utah Project. This has bothered me since the article by Flint Stephens, the City Editor, dated November 11, 1988, about the Joranelle Reservoir and its being a boondoggle project.

Do the Herald staff understand water and its value in this arid area? If the people of the State of Utah really knew what the effect of the CUP means to our state, they would fight for every drop of water that was allocated in the Colorado River Compact.

Information from the six groups that Lillian Hays is representing about the environmental concerns is unfounded. How many studies do we need? There has already been a final environmental impact study on the CUP. It is frustrating that the total cost of the CUP project has more than doubled the original planned cost because of the time spent in repeated Studies, many from unauthoritative sources.

Of the ten protest groups, including the League Of Women Voters, do any one of them understand the large area of land, from the Bear River on the North to the head waters of the Sevier River on the South, that will be effected beneficially by the project.

If it were not for the Old Strawberry Valley Project,

completed in 1913, the 60,000 acres of ground, from Springville on the North, Santaquin on the South, and Genola on the West, would be little more than sage brush. The Strawberry Valley Project has produced an average of 58,000 acre feet of water to this area each year for the past 75 years. The people that bought and fully paid for the Strawberry Project at the cost of \$3,499,734 made their final payment on December 23, 1974.

Sen. Bill Bradley, D-N.J., do you know how these stockholders, farmers Cities, struggled through depression and other years, many mortgaging their farms and homes, and certainly all in debt most of their lives, only to have it turned over to the Forest Service for management by the Bureau of Reclamation, when finally paid for? Also, Senator Bradley, none of the money paid back to the Strawberry Water Users by the United States Government will go into any stockholder's pocket, but all money will go back into the project for continuing upgrading and replacement of worn out controls, equipment, etc.

I would like to ask Rep. Wayne Owens and Utah County Commissioner Brent Morris how much they understand the Central Utah Project and what it means to the whole State Of Utah.

I would like to ask the ten organizations so concerned about a full study of the Bureau Of Reclamation, "How much money have You paid to the U.S. Government for your enjoyment of the prime reservoirs the Bureau has built and the many controlled and minimal flow streams in the Western United States for prime fisheries? Another question: "If worse comes to worse, are you willing to be the first to go without lawn, flowers, a bath, or yes, even a drink of WATER?"

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